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for educational purposes should go to strengthen and sustain the public school system. Nebraskans have gotten things turned around, the Nebraskans in the Legislature, that is. You create three aid programs. The church-based schools can raid all three of them; the public schools have access to only two. That makes no sense whatsoever. Senator Wehrbein had said he'd like to look at the entire issue. Others have said that. I think the time to begin to look is now. The opportunity is here. There is no...

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...justification for trying to fund these church-based schools to the same extent as the public schools. So if you have any questions of me, I'm prepared to answer them. But whether there are questions or not, I intend to talk about these issues of education. I'm going to try to show my colleagues, who are so caught up with LB 305, they do not see the interplay, the interface, the interconnection between other bills and LB 305. This that I'm talking about touches on that. But I will touch more directly on it with an amendment that would take away all of the increased appropriations for all of these programs. There should not be a nickel...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time. Thank you, Senator Chambers. You've heard the opening on AM1665 offered by Senator Chambers to LB 543. Open for discussion. Senator Connealy.

SENATOR CONNEALY: Thank you, Mr. President. Senator Chambers says we need to support public institutions, and we do. Boy, do we do it. If you look at the total funding that we give to postsecondary education, only six-tenths of one percent of the funding goes to these kind of programs that...that go to students that are going to postsecondary education institutions that are independent. This is a very small amount of what we do. We have a system that's dominated by our public institution, dominated by the University of Nebraska, and it should be. It's a high-quality institution; an institution that we need to protect. But we also need some diversity. We need